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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/782,098	02/19/2004	Carmen Flosbach	FA1224USNA	4752

23906 7590 07/18/2007

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EXAMINER	
SERGENT, RABON A	
ART UNIT	**PAPER NUMBER**
1711	

MAIL DATE	DELIVERY MODE
07/18/2007	PAPER

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	10/782,098	FLOSBACH ET AL.	
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	Rabon Sergent	1711	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

1)☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on *23 April 2007*.

2a)☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b)☐ This action is non-final.

3)☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

4)☒ Claim(s) *1,4,7 and 10* is/are pending in the application.

4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.

5)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.

6)☒ Claim(s) *1, 4, 7, and 10* is/are rejected.

7)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.

8)☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

9)☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

10)☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a)☐ accepted or b)☐ objected to by the Examiner.

Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).

Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).

11)☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

12)☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).

a)☐ All b)☐ Some * c)☐ None of:

1.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.

2.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.

3.☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

1) ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08) Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____.
4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____.
5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
6) ☐ Other: _____.

1. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

> (a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negatived by the manner in which the invention was made.

This application currently names joint inventors. In considering patentability of the claims under 35 U.S.C. 103(a), the examiner presumes that the subject matter of the various claims was commonly owned at the time any inventions covered therein were made absent any evidence to the contrary. Applicant is advised of the obligation under 37 CFR 1.56 to point out the inventor and invention dates of each claim that was not commonly owned at the time a later invention was made in order for the examiner to consider the applicability of 35 U.S.C. 103(c) and potential 35 U.S.C. 102(e), (f) or (g) prior art under 35 U.S.C. 103(a).

2. Claims 1, 4, 7, and 10 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over WO 01/25359.

The reference discloses polyurethane diacrylates and powder coatings derived from the polyurethane diacrylates, wherein the polyurethane diacrylates are produced from the reaction of hexane diisocyanate with ethylene glycol, butanediol, and hydroxyethyl acrylate in a molar ratio that meets that claimed. See example 5 on page 46 and examples 3 and 4 on pages 49-51. Though other mixtures of diols are not exemplified that specifically meet those claimed, the reference does disclose the use of other diol species that meet those claimed at page 22, lines 18-25. Since the diols of the exemplified blend are included within this listing of diols, this listing essentially establishes the equivalency of the disclosed other diol species to those of the example. Accordingly, it would have been *prima facie* obvious to utilize any of the disclosed diols in the

form of blends in the production of the polyurethane diacrylates, in accordance with the teachings of the example.

3. As aforementioned within the Office action of January 17, 2007, applicants have argued that their invention yields unexpected results over the prior art and have provided 37 CFR 1.132 declarations to demonstrate these results. The examiner has considered applicants' declarations; however, the declarations are deficient, because the examples of the declarations are not commensurate in scope with the claims. The claims encompass fractional values of X and molar ratios of the diols that are not exemplified within the declaration. For example, it would seem that the most relevant showings would be where X equals 2.5, since the claims encompass such a value and the prior art specifically exemplifies such a value; however, no showings have been provided for this value. It has been held that evidence of unexpected results must pertain to the full extent of the subject matter claimed. *In re Ackermann*, 170 USPQ 340; *In re Chupp*, 2 USPQ2d 1437, 1440; *In re Murch*, 175 USPQ 89. Accordingly, it has been held that to overcome a reasonable case of *prima facie* obviousness, a given claim must be commensurate in scope with any showing of unexpected results. *In re Greenfield*, 197 USPQ 227. Furthermore, it has been held that a limited showing of criticality is insufficient to support a broadly claimed range. *In re Lemin*, 161 USPQ 288. For these reasons, the position is maintained that applicants' declaration is insufficient to overcome the prior art rejection. The examiner has considered the arguments within the response of April 23, 2007; however, it is not seen that the arguments adequately address the aforementioned issues. Despite applicants' response, the fact remains that showings have not been provided that establish unexpected results relative to the closest teachings of the prior art, i.e.; examples where x=2.5.

4. It is noted that WO 01/25359 corresponds to U.S. Patent 6,825,241.

5. **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL.** Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the mailing date of this final action.

Any inquiry concerning this communication should be directed to R. Sergent at telephone number (571) 272-1079.

RABON SERGENT
PRIMARY EXAMINER

R. Sergent
July 14, 2007